

SUPPLEMENTAL OXYGEN ADMINISTRATION

- Take Body Substance Isolation precautions.
- Identify contents of cylinder as medical oxygen and assure hydrostat date.
- Assemble the tank & regulator

Crack open the tank to eliminate foreign particles. If your regulator is equipped with a washer insure the washer is in place to prevent leakage . Be sure the regulator pins line up with the holes on the tank stem. The regulator should be “hand tightened” only.
- Check tank pressure

Turn the valve stem one complete turn and check for tank pressure and leaks.
A full tank has 2,000 psi. 1,500 psi. is 3/4 full etc. Tank should be refilled when the tank pressure reaches 500 psi.
- Select appropriate oxygen delivery device

The available devices include the non-rebreather mask, nasal cannula, and the Bag Valve Mask (BVM). The device chosen will depend on the patient requirements you found during your Initial Assessment. Connect the oxygen tubing to the regulator (do not over tighten the tubing to the regulator).
- Adjust the liter flow

Non-rebreather face mask 10 – 15 Liters Per Minute.
Pre-fill the reservoir on the mask prior to placing the mask on the patient. If you initially set the Liters Per Minute (LPM) to 10 and the patient is continually collapsing the reservoir and not allowing the reservoir to totally re-inflate, you will need to increase the LPM to 15. If the reservoir is still not able to adequately re-inflate and the patient is continually collapsing the reservoir, consider assisting respirations with a bag valve mask.
Bag Valve Mask 15 Liters Per Minute.
Allow the reservoir on the BVM to fill prior to using the BVM on the patient.
Nasal Cannula 2 – 6 Liters Per Minute.
- Adjust the device to patient’s face

All patients receiving oxygen therapy must be watched carefully. Beware of a patient previously having difficulty breathing who has a falling level of consciousness! BE PREPARED TO VENTILATE. Continue to reassess the patient. Check the tank pressure often.

NOTE: When removing an oxygen mask from the patient’s face, remember to remove the mask *before* turning off the oxygen.

- Turning off oxygen

After shutting off the regulator, relieve the pressure within the regulator.